

Conservation Security Program



*You've been taking care of natural resources on your land for years...
...now, you have a chance to be financially rewarded for your work.*

Conservation Security Program Overview

The Conservation Security Program (CSP) was authorized by the 2002 Farm Bill to reward farmers and ranchers who are implementing conservation on America's working lands. CSP is a voluntary program based on conservation accomplishments that recognizes the contributions of the best land stewards and encourages them to do more.

CSP rounds out a portfolio of conservation for America's farmers and ranchers. CSP is helping producers improve management of private lands through NRCS conservation services and programs to sustain past environmental gains, address current resource problems, and provide for regulatory relief.

The Watershed Approach

To provide the best service possible to producers, the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is implementing CSP on a watershed basis. Focusing on high priority watersheds allows NRCS to provide quality service to more applicants than if the program were implemented nationwide because of limits on both program and technical assistance funding in Fiscal Year 2005.

CSP is being offered in watersheds across the country. The Chetco Watershed has been chosen as a CSP priority watershed for 2005.

Signing up for CSP

Applicants will be selected at the national level for the 2005 sign-up. The fact sheet entitled "CSP Eligibility, Qualification and Application Steps" contains detailed information about applying for CSP. Generally, to apply, land managers will need to complete the following steps:

Before the Sign-up Begins:

1. Complete a Self-Assessment Workbook.
2. Gather appropriate records and documentation.
3. Contact your local Farm Service Agency to receive a USDA (also called SCIMS) Identification Number.

Once the Sign-up Begins:

4. Attend a Self-Assessment workshop to learn more about CSP and receive assistance in finalizing your Self-Assessment Workbook.
5. Set up an appointment with your Local NRCS staff to confirm your eligibility, documentation and determine your enrollment category.
6. Submit your Conservation Stewardship Plan.
7. If you are selected for funding, complete your Conservation Stewardship Contract.

For additional information on the Conservation Security Program in Oregon, go to www.or.nrcs.usda.gov.

Conservation Security Program in the Chetco



Chetco Watershed

Watershed Acres:
Total - 405,300

Private Land:
Total Oregon- 120,600
Total California- 11,300

Land Use Acres:
Pastureland - 20,900
Forestland - 375,000

78 Working Farms

Major Commodities:
Lilies
Cattle
Sheep

For More Information
Contact the Local NRCS
Field Office:
Coquille 541-396-2841

CSP 2005 in the Chetco Watershed

The Chetco Watershed is characterized by rugged mountainous terrain and narrow canyons. Most areas in the watershed are subject to landslides or unstable soils. The watershed includes lowlands, terraces, and mountains. The lowlands consist of the areas within the present flood plains, marshes, and the area between the beaches and dunes at or near the mouth of larger rivers and streams along the coast. Elevation generally is less than 40 feet above sea level.

River terraces generally are less than 50 feet above the present-day flood plains. The higher stream terraces are somewhat wide, nearly level areas. Terraces are utilized extensively in the watershed, and they are of major importance for commercial, residential, industrial, and agricultural uses.

The watershed is drained by three river systems, the Chetco, Pistol and Winchuck rivers, which flow to the Pacific Ocean. There are several ESA listed species in the watershed including salmon, steelhead, and bald eagles.

A major portion of the economy in the area is dependent on fishing. River floodplains include improved pasture, and grazing land health is an important resource issue. Soil erosion, water quality and water quantity are the most important resource concerns on land used for lily bulbs and other crops.

Chetco Watershed



The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET center at 202-720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.